

GOVERNOR'S METHAMPHETAMINE TASKFORCE MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2006

9:30 A.M.- 3:00 P.M.

I. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:35 by Barbara LaWall, Chair who introduced Dennis Burke, Chief of Staff for Governor Janet Napolitano. Dennis provided a welcome on behalf of Governor Napolitano and commended Chair LaWall and other task force members for the commitment they have made in agreeing to be part of the task force.

Dennis stated that the Governor is expecting great things from the task force and he is looking forward to reviewing the final report. Dennis additionally commended the staff of Irene Jacobs, Executive Director for the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families, Rob Evans, Director for the Division for Substance Abuse Policy for the work that has been done thus far in getting everyone together for this first meeting. Dennis concluded his presentation by encouraging members to remain committed and focused to the task at hand to reduce the impact and use of Methamphetamine in Arizona.

II. Introductions

Ms. LaWall extended an invitation for task force members to briefly introduce themselves and led task force members in a detailed introduction about themselves. Everyone present was asked to provide their name, agency, a brief summary of professional experience, and what is at stake for you and your agency, and if members had attended the Statewide Methamphetamine Action Conference in February 2006.

III. Overview of the Governor's Methamphetamine Task Force

Ms. LaWall presented on the structure and function of the Methamphetamine Task Force, stating that the task force would meet monthly through March and quarterly for 12 months following the completion of the strategic action plan.

Prior to the discussion of the deliverables for the task force, Ms. LaWall provided an overview of Arizona's meth problem, stating that Methamphetamine is the fastest drug threat in Arizona due to the fact that the drug is readily available and relatively inexpensive. Ms. LaWall provided a framework for the impact of Methamphetamine by referencing the nature of its impact to the environment, law enforcement system and family structure.

Ms. LaWall discussed with task force members the purpose of the task force which included the following: (1) advise the Governor, Office of CYF, and Advisory Council of the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) on effective policy direction to reduce meth use, production and sales in Arizona (2) recommend improvement for the coordination of information and resources related to reducing meth use, production, sales (3) develop a comprehensive multi-year strategic action plan for how state and local government can enhance prevention efforts, treatment services and law enforcement activities related to reducing meth use, production and distribution in Arizona (4) identify and recommend strategies to measure outcomes and effectiveness of activities of local meth coalitions.

Ms. LaWall also discussed three main deliverables which the task force would be required to meet over the next six months, including (1) the development of a statewide strategic action plan with measurable and action-oriented objectives with specific goals targeting the areas of law enforcement, prevention and treatment (2) to build a statewide coalition network that will maintain continuous communication between local community anti-meth coalitions through providing and opportunities for local coalitions to network and share information and resources.

IV. Review of Methamphetamine Conference Report Recommendations

Ms. LaWall provided an overview of the purpose of the Methamphetamine Conference Report that took place in February 2006. Ms. LaWall reviewed policy recommendations included as part of the Methamphetamine Conference Report, noting that the recommendations included are very broad recommendations, however the role of the task force will be to provide objective and action steps needed to address the recommendations. Ms. LaWall provided examples of how the conference report recommendations could be used to develop more specific action-oriented policy recommendations.

Ms. LaWall also used the Washington State Strategic Plan as an example of how objectives and activities were framed in the Washington State Plan.

V. Overview of Statewide Coalitions

Sanzanna Lolis provided an overview of the Arizona Anti-Meth Initiative funded through the Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention. Ms. Lolis provided background information on the creation of the Anti-meth initiative stating that the Arizona Parents Commission allocated \$1.6 million in October 2005 and an additional \$500,000 in September 2006 in funding over a three-year period for multi-phase initiative.

Ms. Lolis indicated that funds would be released in two phases. In the first phase, 22 county anti-meth coalitions were funded to assist with coalition building and conducting a community needs assessment. Ms. Lolis noted that a list of anti-meth coalitions is provided under tab five of the meeting binders. Ms. Lolis further noted that each coalition received \$20,000 for phase I. Each coalition has been receiving state-funded technical assistance since January 2006 to assist with coalition building activities and will continue throughout phase II. The second phase of funding will be used for the implementation of environmental prevention strategies, however has

not been fully developed yet. Ms. Lolis noted that the development of Phase II will be aligned with the statewide strategic action plan and will be further discussed at a planning meeting scheduled to take place in January 2007.

VI. Design and Implementation of a Statewide Strategic Meth Action Plan

James Copple of Strategic Applications International provided an overview of his recommendation for completing a comprehensive strategic plan by March 2007. Mr. Copple noted that one key piece driving the development of a comprehensive strategic plan is an analysis of state and national data. Mr. Copple acknowledged comments and addressed questions about how to integrate state epidemiological data in the strategic planning process. Mr. Copple suggested that next task force meeting be dedicated to a review of the existing data. Ms. LaWall agreed that the focus of the next meeting would be on the analysis of current state epidemiology and would include a gap analysis of any missing data.

Mr. Copple also discussed his experience conducting strategic planning activities in 19 states and noted that what works in one state may not work in Arizona. Mr. Copple provided handouts, which detailed suggested activities and timelines for completing the statewide meth action plan. In the plan, Mr. Copple suggested that the task force hold a 2-day state planning meeting to bring together key players at both the state and local level and should also include individuals not part of the Methamphetamine Task Force or local anti-meth coalitions. This conference is scheduled to take place on January 10-11, 2006. Mr. Copple noted that input from participants of the state planning meeting would be used to drive the strategic action plan due in March, 2006.

VII. Next Steps

Ms. LaWall suggested the dates for next two meetings. A consensus was reached on the dates of October 26, 2006 and November 15, 2006. The location and time of the meeting has not yet been set; however, Ms. LaWall noted that meetings generally will be scheduled to begin at 9:30. Ms. LaWall also stressed the importance of consistent participation and noted that if a proxy is delegated, that individual should also attend the regular meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:15 p.m.